Since there is no ban on production and trade in cigarettes, it is difficult to consider a blanket ban on display of advertisement. However, in all such cases the display of the statutory warning is enforced.

Problem of water logging

388. SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article published in the Economic Times of the 14th June, 1984 under the caption "The Future of irrigation' regarding serious problem of water logging and salinity due to faulty planning of irrigation projects; and

(b) if so what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the article entitled 'The Future of Irrigation' published in the Hindu of the 14th June, 1984, which states, among others, that waterlogging and salinity have become serious problems in many irrigated areas and if drainage had been carefully dealt with in the original project design, lot of damage could have been avoided.

The Government is already seized of the problem and has been impressing upon the State Governments to undertake preventive/corrective measures, which include:

(i) Provision of adequate drainage at the project planning stage.

(ii) Conjuctive use of surface and ground water.

(iii) Introduction of improved irrigation water management practices, including warabandi to ensure equitable distribution of water and reduce water wastage.

(iv) Modernisation of existing irrigation systems which includes lining of canals in selected reaches of high seepage, proper control structures etc....

Such remedial measures are included in the centrally sponsored Command Area Development Programme.

Higher prices of foodgrains in Hill Areas

389. SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of foodgrains and other commodities supplied by the Fair Price Shops in the Hill areas of Uttar Pradesh are higher due to the extra charges on account of transport; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring down these prices to the level of prices prevailing in the plains?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b) Central Issue Prices of foodgrains and other commodities issued through the public distribution system are uniform for any State. The retail prices are fixed by State Governments. Responsibility of ensuring supply of these commodities like foodgrains at reasonable prices, within the State, however, rests with the State Governments themselves.

सरकारी कर्मचारियों को नर्सिंग होम की सुविधायें

390. श्री राम नरेश कुशवाहा : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 425 रुपये वेतन पाने वाले और केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना के अन्तर्गत आने वाले सरकारी कर्मचारियों को डा० राम मनोहर

लोहिया अस्पताल तथा सफदरजंग अस्पताल में भरती होने पर दवाओं, नर्सिंग होम के आवास, रक्त बैंक से खरीदे हुए रक्त और परिचर्या पर किये गये खर्चों की प्रतिपूर्ति कर दी जाती है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उपर्युक्त सुविधायें 425 रुपये से कम वेतन पाने वाले कर्मचारियों को नहीं दी जाती हैं ; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि निचले दर्जे के कर्मचारियों को चिकित्सा प्रमाण-पत्र तक जारी नहीं किये जाते है, जिनके आधार पर वे प्रतिपूर्ति का दावा प्रस्तुत कर सके।

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (कुमारी कुनुदबेन एम० जोशी) : (क) से (ग) डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया अस्पताल सफदरजंग अस्पताल केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना द्वारा कवर किये गये केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों को निःशुल्क अस्पताल में भर्ती करने बहिरंग उपचार की सुविधाएं प्रदान करते है। वैसे, यदि किसी कर्मचारी को कोई निर्धारित दवाई अथवा रक्त आदि, जो अस्पताल/औषधालय में उपलब्ध न हो, खरीदना पड़ता है तो उसकी प्रतिपूर्ति की जाती है। नर्सिंग होम की सुविधाए केवल उन्हीं लाभार्थियों को उपलब्ध होती हैं जिनका मासिक वेतन 750/- रुपये से अधिक होता है।

Sea erosion in Kerala

391. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the gravity of the Problem of sea erosion in Kerala;

(b) whether it is a fact that Kerala Government has proposed to Central Government to change the existing system of loans to grants; and

(c) if so, what decision Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) (a) to (c) Appreciating the problem of sea-erosion of the coastline in Kerala, Government of India has been providing loan assistance to Kerala since 1972-73. The request of the State Government will have to be viewed in the context of similar problem being experienced by the other Coastal States. The Government of India has not taken a decision in the matter.

Procurement of rice in Andhra Pradesh

392. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity of rice procured by the Food Corporation of India from Andhra Pradeh and its percentage, in relation to the total procurements made in the country;

(b) what is the quantity thereof allocated to that State for the Public Distribution System;

(c) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has asked the Food Corporation of India to procure more rice from the State; and

(d) whether that request has been acceded to?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONIC AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) During 1983-84 marketing season, the procurement of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) by Food Corporation of India in Andhra Pradesh so far has been 14.12 lakh tonnes, which comes to 18.5 per cent of the total procurement made in the country till 21st July, 1984.

(b) The allocation of rice to the State since the beginning of the cur-